

**Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (Currently Amended) A support system for a pair of spectacles comprising:

[-]an item of headwear including portion [(11)] which, when in use, projects beyond the circumference of the head of a wearer above the eyes; and

[-]one or more support rods [(12)] or strings [(18)] connected to the projecting portion [(11)] and having means at the or each free end for detachable connection to the temple arms [(15)] of a pair of spectacles.

2. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support rods [(12)] are flexible.

3. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], wherein the support rods or strings are adjustable for length and/or position on the projecting portion.

4. (Original) A support system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the support rods are adjustable by bending and/or stretching.

5. (Original) A support system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the support rods or strings are adjusted at the connection point to the projecting portion.

6. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the projecting portion includes a number of holes [(28)] through which the rods or strings can pass so as to provide for different positions for the rods or strings.

7. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the rods or strings are permanently attached to the projecting portion or are detachable therefrom.

8. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the ends of the rods or strings can be folded against the projecting portion when not in use.

9. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the support rods or strings are constituted by a single piece attached to the projecting portion and having free ends for connection to the temple arms of the pair of spectacles.

10. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any of claims 1-8~~ claim 1, wherein the support rods or strings are constituted by two or more separate elements.

11. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the free end of the support rods or strings are formed as a hook ~~[(14)]~~ for connection to the temple arms ~~[(15)]~~ of the pair of spectacles.

12. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in claim 11, wherein at least the end portion of the support rods or strings are flexible so as to be formable into the hook ~~[(14)]~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any of claims 1-10~~ claim 1, wherein the free ends of the support rods or strings comprise magnets ~~[(19)]~~ to connect to the temple arms of the pair of spectacles.

14. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in claim 13, further comprising a magnetically attractive element ~~[(20)]~~ for location on the temple arms of the pair of spectacles.

15. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in claim 13 ~~or 14~~, wherein magnetically attractive elements ~~[[27]]~~ are provided in the projecting portion such that the rods or strings can be held out of the way when not in use.

16. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein catch elements such as clips are provided in the projecting portion such that the rods or strings can be held out of the way when not in use.

17. (Currently Amended) A support system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the item of headwear comprises a brim or peak.

18. (Original) A support system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the item of headwear comprises a cap or visor.